

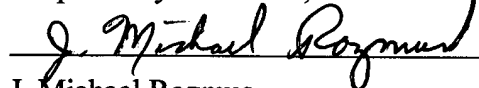
REMARKS

All amendments to the specification are for the correction of minor editorial errors.

All of the original claims are canceled and replaced by new Claims 16-38 in order to:

1. follow preferred practice of making only method limitations to method claims,
2. add a set of apparatus claims,
3. follow preferred practice of making only apparatus limitations to apparatus claims,
4. eliminate use of the abbreviation "URL",
5. eliminate the obscure term, "eliciting".

Respectfully submitted,



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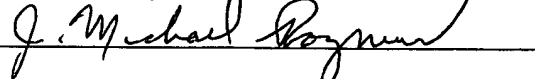
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Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and attachments, if any, will be deposited with the United States Postal Service by First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner of Patents, Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" on the date below.

Date: 8/12/2003 Inventor's Signature: 

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0014] with following amended paragraph:

[0014] FIG. 1 shows only one of many possible computing arrangements that would support the present invention. The elements of the new method are logical steps typically implemented by software interacting with a user. The software running on server **10** and on server **20** may be divided to run on more than two computer servers, or the software might be loaded onto a single server, which would run both the Private SSO and Application functions. The client software running on standard PC **30**, which is typically based on an Intel processor and Microsoft Windows operating system, might be ported to run on a high-end workstation based on a UNIX operating system, a Personal Digital Assistant (PDA) based on a Palm operating system, a low-end Internet appliance with a simple embedded operating system, or any other machine for user interface to the World Wide Web via the Internet. In theory, either the server software or the client software may even be converted to a hardware implementation. Communication links **50** may or may not include hubs, switches, routers, firewalls, and other network elements used in or with the Internet.

Please replace paragraph [0015] with following amended paragraph:

[0015] FIG. 2 shows the process by which a user signs up for the Private SSO service. In step **60**, a user points a Web browser to the sign-up page of the Private SSO site running on server **10**. Typically, this sign-up page would be implemented using secure hypertext ~~transport~~ transfer protocol (HTTPS), which means that the client software in PC **30** communicates with the server software in server **10** using Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) protocol, which encrypts the two-way communication to protect privacy. (The latest version of SSL is also called Transport Layer Security, or TLS, protocol.) On this secure SSL connection, the user gives name, address, credit card number, etc., to pay for and receive the Private SSO service.

Please replace paragraph [0020] with following amended paragraph:

[0020] FIG. 3 shows a process for recording and storing private information associated with the sign-up page of a Web application service, such as electronic banking, Web e-mail, online shopping, etc. In step **150**, a user points a Web browser to the sign-up page of the desired Web application service running on server **20**. Typically, this sign-up page would be implemented using secure hypertext ~~transport~~ transfer protocol (HTTPS) with Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) protocol, which encrypts the two-way communication to protect privacy. On this secure SSL connection, the user gives name, address, credit card number, etc., to pay for and receive the Web application service. After this sign-up, the user proceeds to the sign-on page of the selected service.